

In the Claims

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1 1. [Currently amended] A method ~~for~~ ~~for~~ for processing
2 index numbers of accounts payable records from a plurality
3 of accounts payable systems to identify duplicate records,
4 comprising the steps of:

5 loading first records having an index number into a
6 database from a plurality of accounts payable systems
7 during a first predetermined time period;

8 for each record having said index number, searching
9 said database for another record, loaded during a
10 second earlier time period, having the same index
11 number and replacing said another record, if found,
12 with said first record;

13 comparing each first record for which no matching index
14 number record was found with all other first records
15 for which no matching index number record was found;

16 comparing each of said first records for which no

17 matching index number record was found with all the
18 other records including the replaced records in said
19 database;

20 generating reports of the comparing steps, the reports
21 listing records which compared; and

22 eliminating from said database said first records
23 deemed to have compared.

1 2. [Original] The method of claim 1, said records being
2 invoice records.

3-5 [Canceled]

1 6. [Previously presented] A method for providing a report
2 that can be used to evaluate two or more invoiced documents
3 for further investigation of possible duplicate invoicing,
4 comprising the steps of:

5 maintaining a compact database by entering invoice data
6 to said compact database from a plurality of accounts
7 payable systems for payment at a later date and
8 removing canceled invoice documents and invoice

9 documents older than a predetermined period;
10 responsive to submission of an invoice with a null
11 invoice indicia field entering date indicia in said
12 null invoice indicia field;

13 extracting data from said compact database by matching
14 on suppliers invoice indicia, name, date and amount;

15 checking said compact database for duplicate invoices
16 before said later date; and

17 producing said report from said data.

1 7. [Previously presented] Method for capturing packets of
2 possible duplicate invoices for duplicate invoice analysis,
3 comprising the steps of:

4 preparing a set of invoices including all invoices from
5 all of a plurality of accounts payable systems for
6 different entities within an enterprise;

7 removing selected invoices from said set of invoices
8 based upon first expert criteria to form an

9 investigative packet;

10 maintaining as a first subset of said investigative

11 packet a collection of current invoices that have not

12 yet been paid;

13 maintaining as a second subset of said investigative

14 packet a collection of history invoices that have been

15 paid;

16 generating based on second expert criteria from said

17 current invoices and said history invoices a plurality

18 of intermediate packets of invoices exhibiting a same

19 behavior, each said intermediate packet including at

20 least one invoice from said collection of current

21 invoices;

22 dropping packets from said plurality of intermediate

23 packets based on third expert criteria;

24 flagging invoices in remaining intermediate packets

25 based on fourth expert criteria;

26 dropping from said remaining intermediate packets to

27 form a final set of packets invoices which have not
28 been flagged; and

29 generating from said final set of packets a first
30 report of invoices having same invoice numbers and
31 vendor numbers, a second report of invoices having
32 similar vendor names and same invoice amounts; a third
33 report of invoices having similar invoice dates and
34 invoice amounts differing only on flagged conditions; a
35 fourth report of invoices having same invoice amounts
36 and invoice numbers but not same date and vendor name;
37 a fifth report of invoices having same invoice numbers
38 and vendor names but not same vendor number and invoice
39 amount; and a sixth report of invoices having same
40 invoice numbers, vendor name and invoice amounts,
41 irrespective of invoice date.

42 8. [Original] The method of claim 7, each invoice
43 comprising a record including vendor identifier indicia,
44 vendor record indicia, date indicia, and amount indicia.

1 9. [Original] The method of claim 8, each said record
2 including a vendor record indicia field, a data indicia

3 field, and an amount indicia field.

1 10. [Original] The method of claim 9, further comprising
2 the steps of:

3 flagging said invoices in said packet against each
4 other with respect to expert criteria;

5 dropping from said packet unflagged invoices; and

6 discarding remaining packets having no current
7 invoices.

1 11. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising
2 the step of flagging record pairs having transposed digits
3 in said vendor record indicia fields.

1 12. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising
2 the step responsive to receiving an invoice with null vendor
3 record indicia field of entering date indicia as date-like
4 indicia to said vendor record indicia field.

1 13. [Original] The method of claim 12, further comprising
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs having a same vendor

3 identifier indicia and date-like indicia in said vendor
4 indicia field.

1 14. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs having matching vendor
3 record indicia.

1 15. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs having, for matching
3 vendor identification indicia, matching vendor record
4 indicia except for a prefix or suffix character.

1 16. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs, for matching vendor
3 identification indicia, having vendor record indicia of
4 different lengths.

1 17. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs matching on said vendor
3 record indicia while ignoring embedded blanks.

1 18. [Original] The method of claim 12, further comprising
2 the steps of:

3 flagging invoice pairs having transposed digits in said
4 vendor record indicia fields;

5 flagging invoice pairs having a same vendor identifier
6 indicia and date-like indicia in said vendor indicia
7 field;

8 flagging invoice pairs having matching vendor record
9 indicia;

10 flagging invoice pairs having, for matching vendor
11 identification indicia, matching vendor record indicia
12 except for a prefix or suffix character;

13 flagging invoice pairs, for matching vendor
14 identification indicia, having vendor record indicia of
15 different lengths; and

16 flagging invoice pairs matching on said vendor record
17 indicia while ignoring embedded blanks.

1 19. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of forcing all said invoices to be current.

1 20. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of capturing packets having same vendor and invoice
3 numbers.

1 21. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of capturing packets having similar vendor names
3 and same invoice amount.

1 22. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of capturing packets having similar invoice dates
3 and amounts, differing only on flagged conditions.

1 23. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of capturing packets having same invoice amount and
3 numbers but not same date and vendor name.

1 24. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of capturing packets having same invoice number and
3 vendor name but not same vendor number and invoice amount.

1 25. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of capturing packets having the same vendor number
3 and same invoice number and amount, irrespective of invoice
4 date.

1 26. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable
2 by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 processing index numbers of accounts payable records from a
5 plurality of accounts payable systems to identify duplicate
6 records, said method steps comprising:

7 loading first records having an index number into a
8 database during a first predetermined time period;

9 for each record having said index number, searching
10 said database for another record, loaded during a
11 second earlier time period, having the same index
12 number and replacing said another record, if found,
13 with said first record;

14 comparing each first record for which no matching index
15 number record was found with all other first records
16 for which no matching index number invoice was found;

17 comparing each of said first invoices for which no
18 matching index number record was found with all the
19 other records including the replaced records in said

20 database;

21 generating reports of the comparing steps, the reports

22 listing records which compared; and

23 eliminating from said database said first records

24 deemed to have compared.

1 27. [Previously presented] A program storage device

2 readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of

3 instructions executable by a machine to perform method steps

4 for providing a report that can be used to evaluate two or

5 more invoiced documents for further investigation of

6 possible duplicate invoicing, said method steps comprising:

7 maintaining a compact database by removing canceled

8 invoice documents and invoice documents older than a

9 predetermined period;

10 responsive to submission of an invoice with a null

11 invoice indicia field entering date indicia in said

12 null invoice indicia field;

13 extracting data from said compact database by matching

14 on suppliers invoice indicia, name, date and amount;
15 and

16 producing said report from said data.

1 28. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable
2 by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 capturing packets of possible duplicate invoices for
5 duplicate invoice analysis, said method steps comprising:

6 preparing a set of invoices including all invoices from
7 ~~all from all~~ of a plurality of accounts payable systems
8 for different entities within an enterprise;

9 removing selected invoices from said set of invoices
10 based upon first expert criteria to form an
11 investigative packet;

12 maintaining as a first subset of said investigative
13 packet a collection of current invoices that have not
14 yet been paid;

15 maintaining as a second subset of said investigative

16 packet a collection of history invoices that have been
17 paid;

18 generating based on second expert criteria from said
19 current invoices and said history invoices a plurality
20 of intermediate packets of invoices exhibiting a same
21 behavior, each said intermediate packet including at
22 least one invoice from said collection of current
23 invoices;

24 dropping packets from said plurality of intermediate
25 packets based on third expert criteria;

26 flagging invoices in remaining intermediate packets
27 based on fourth expert criteria; and

28 dropping from said remaining intermediate packets to
29 form a final set of packets invoices which have not
30 been flagged.

1 29. [Currently amended] A system for capturing packets of
2 possible duplicate invoices for duplicate invoice analysis,
3 comprising:

4 a set of invoices including all invoices from all of a
5 plurality of accounts payable systems of an enterprise;

6 an investigative packet formed by removing selected
7 invoices from said set of invoices based upon first
8 expert criteria;

9 a first subset of said investigative packet including a
10 current file of invoices that have not yet been paid;

11 a second subset of said investigative packet including
12 a history file of invoices that have been paid; and

13 a plurality of intermediate packets of invoices
14 generated based on second expert criteria from said
15 first and second subsets for storing invoices
16 exhibiting a same behavior, said packet including at
17 least one invoice ~~from said~~ of ~~from said~~ current file;
18 and

19 a plurality of reports generated from a plurality of
20 said packets including a first report of invoices
21 having same invoice numbers and vendor numbers, a
22 second report of invoices having similar vendor names

23 and same invoice amounts; a third report of invoices
24 having similar invoice dates and invoice amounts
25 differing only on flagged conditions; a fourth report
26 of invoices having same invoice amounts and invoice
27 numbers but not same date and vendor name; a fifth
28 report of invoices having same invoice numbers and
29 vendor names but not same vendor number and invoice
30 amount; and a sixth report of invoices having same
31 invoice numbers, vendor name and invoice amounts,
32 irrespective of invoice date.

33 30. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet
34 containing invoices having same vendor and invoice numbers.

1 31. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet
2 containing invoices having similar vendor names and same
3 invoice amount.

1 32. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet
2 containing invoices having similar invoice dates and
3 amounts, differing only on flagged conditions.

1 33. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet
2 containing invoices having same invoice amount and numbers

3 but not same date and vendor name.

1 34. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet
2 containing invoices having same invoice number and vendor
3 name but not same vendor number and invoice amount.

1 35. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet
2 containing invoices having the same vendor number and same
3 invoice number and amount, irrespective of invoice date.

1 36. [Previously presented] A computer program product or
2 computer program element for processing index numbers of
3 accounts payable records from a plurality of accounts
4 payable systems to identify duplicate records according to
5 method steps comprising:

6 loading first records having an index number into a
7 database during a first predetermined time period;

8 for each record having said index number, searching
9 said database for another record, loaded during a
10 second earlier time period, having the same index
11 number and replacing said another record, if found,
12 with said first record;

13 comparing each first record for which no matching index
14 number record was found with all other first records
15 for which no matching index number invoice was found;

16 comparing each of said first invoices for which no
17 matching index number record was found with all the
18 other records including the replaced records in said
19 database;

20 generating reports of the comparing steps, the reports
21 listing records which compared; and

22 eliminating from said database said first records
23 deemed to have compared.

1 37. [Previously presented] A computer program product or
2 computer program element for capturing packets of possible
3 duplicate invoices for duplicate invoice analysis according
4 to method steps comprising:

5 preparing a set of invoices including all invoices from
6 all of a plurality of accounts payable systems for
7 different entities within an enterprise;

8 removing selected invoices from said set of invoices
9 based upon first expert criteria to form an
10 investigative packet;

11 maintaining as a first subset of said investigative
12 packet a collection of current invoices that have not
13 yet been paid;

14 maintaining as a second subset of said investigative
15 packet a collection of history invoices that have been
16 paid;

17 generating based on second expert criteria from said
18 current invoices and said history invoices a plurality
19 of intermediate packets of invoices exhibiting a same
20 behavior, each said intermediate packet including at
21 least one invoice from said collection of current
22 invoices;

23 dropping packets from said plurality of intermediate
24 packets based on third expert criteria;

25 flagging invoices in remaining intermediate packets
26 based on fourth expert criteria; and

27 dropping invoices which have not been flagged from said
28 remaining intermediate packets to form a final set of
29 packets.